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178 from the development of big industry, and economic motives have become more and more predominant in public life. As far as her constitutional or judicial system, public education or general welfare are concerned, Finland undoubtedly belongs among the most advanced nations in the world, and there should be little
●[668] reason for social discontent. All the same, the number of Communists is considerable, and represents a potential threat to the peace of Finland.

157 There is no doubt that the Finn is a born individualist and resents very much any outside interference. He is not apt to follow leaders, and anyone wishing to influence the Finnish public must have an extraordinarily strong personality. At any rate, it is wiser to appeal to his reason rather than to his emotions, for

175 this was the first political assassination in Finnish history. Bobrikov's death brought joy all over the country, and Schauman became a national hero. Russian pressure eased after this, and Russia's failures in the war against [646] Japan brought more temporary relief. The diet of Finland was reorganized into its present state: instead of the four estates of Swedish times it has now only one chamber of [562] 200 representatives. Finland became the first country to grant women complete suffrage in 1906.

175 668 But the Russian oppression began anew after a few relatively peaceful years, and the resistance of the Finns took a more and more active form. The Russian revolutionists also found accomplices in the radical wing of the Finnish

175 Social Democratic party, and the country by
●668 now was in turmoil. The beginning of World War I at first brought no change in the situation. Russian troops were stationed in Finland, but no attempt was made to draft Finns into the Russian army. And the Finns, on their side, hoped fervently that the Russians would lose but otherwise were not involved in the war. The idea spread that the time had come to start preparing for the independence of Finland; it was understood that the liberation of the country could not occur by peaceful means. Sweden was asked to give military training to a group of young Finnish men who were to become the kernel of a future Finnish army. But Sweden, fearful of Russia, declined. The only remaining hope was Germany, which agreed to

175 668 train the Finns as a special unit operating only on the eastern front. From that time on young men, mostly university students, but farmers and workers, too, began to disappear without trace from the country, and the movement continued despite all Russian countermeasures.

Meanwhile, the workers dissociated themselves more radically from the rest of the nation; revolutionary ideas were spread among them. They started forming so-called Red Guards, training with weapons obtained from revolutionary Russian troops. At the same time other strata of the people, farmers and intellectuals, started forming White Guards and using weapons smuggled into the country from abroad.

175 The outbreak of the first Russian revolution in March, 1917, set free the Finnish national

815 Society for Jurisprudence, Economic Society, Silvicultural Society, Oriental Society, Geneological Society, Pedagogical Society, Neo-Philological Society, Society of Economics, Society of Social Politics, Society of Political Science, Society for Popular Education, and, finally, the Westermarck Society.

871 Education in Finland is traditionally based on a national and humanistic basis. The State has not interfered with it ideologies, and even today it is unaffected by political controversies, with the exception of some peoples' high schools operated by political parties (by Communists and Agrarians respectively). As mentioned above, there have always been extremely few Finns with a higher education who ever held communist views, and university students have traditionally been leaders in patriotic movements. In the thirties

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668 these movements sometimes showed chauvinsitic
186 tendencies; e.g., a resentment towards Sweden was rife among the Finnish-speaking students as a result of language controversies in their own country. Perhaps because of the isolated position of Finland, there have been few prejudices
[648] against foreigners as individuals. Furthermore, the aversion towards Russia and the Russians has, on the whole, been almost identical with Finnish nationalism.

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